

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

SWIDLER BERLIN SHEREFF FRIEDMAN, LLP

THE WASHINGTON HARBOUR  
3000 K STREET, NW, SUITE 300  
WASHINGTON, DC 20007-5116  
TELEPHONE (202) 424-7500  
FAX (202) 424-7645  
WWW.SWIDLAW.COM

NEW YORK OFFICE  
THE CHRYSLER BUILDING  
405 LEXINGTON AVENUE  
NEW YORK, NY 10174  
(212) 973-0111 FAX (212) 891-9598

RECEIVED

February 22, 2001

FEB 22 2001

Magalie R. Salas  
Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, S.W.  
Washington, DC 20554

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY


ORIGINAL

Re: *Ex Parte*  
CC Docket No. 96-98 /

Dear Ms. Salas:

Pursuant to Sections 1.1206(a) and (b) of the Commission's rules this will provide notice that on February 21, 2001 Julia Strow, Vice President, Regulatory & Industry Relations, Cbeyond Communications and the undersigned met with Glen Reynolds, Michelle Carey, and Jon Reel of the Common Carrier Bureau concerning unbundled local switching issues under consideration in the above-captioned proceeding. Cbeyond presented the views set forth in the attached documents, which were provided at the meeting. In addition to these views, Cbeyond stated that the ITU's recent agreement on standards for SHDSL will permit Cbeyond to serve customers that currently subscribe to only one line.

Sincerely,



Patrick J. Donovan  
Counsel for Cbeyond Communications

cc: Glen Reynolds  
Michelle Carey  
Jon Reel

No. of Copies rec'd 0+2  
List A B C D E

**International  
Telecommunication Union**

*United Nations specialized agency  
for telecommunications*

**Release**

**This press release is published in French, English and Spanish. For further information, or for additional copies in one of the languages, please contact the Press Office, International**

**Telecommunication Union.**

**Telephone: +41 22 730 6039**

**Telefax: +41 22 730 5939/733 7256**

**Internet: [pressinfo@itu.int](mailto:pressinfo@itu.int)**

**Web: <http://www.itu.int/newsroom/>**

**(For information media, not an official record)**

**9 February 2001****Original: English**

---

## **ITU reaches agreement on new global standard that will increase Internet Access Speed**

**Geneva** - The International Telecommunication Union today reached agreement on a new global standard for Single pair High bit-rate Digital Subscriber Line (SHDSL) transceivers, which will allow network operators to economically and efficiently offer leased-line services to business customers using existing copper loops. SHDSL enables data, voice and video to be transmitted over distances never before attainable by other flavours of symmetric DSL technology.

The approved standard, designated ITU-T Recommendation G.991.2, is effective immediately.

"This latest Digital Subscriber Line (DSL) standard complements ITU-T's series of ADSL (asymmetric DSL) standards in that it provides symmetrical high bit rate network access, and thus is particularly attractive to business customers fulfilling their needs to upload and exchange large amounts of data", said Peter Wery, chairman of ITU-T Study Group 15.

SHDSL enables operators to provide symmetric, high-speed data transmission over the existing copper pairs without requiring the installation of additional cable. It is a multi-rate DSL technology that allows data rates from 192 kbit/s to 2 312 kbit/s and can transport T1 (1 544 kbit/s), E1 (2 048 kbit/s), ISDN, ATM and IP signals. The framing to support these various types of signals is negotiated at start-up using the 'handshaking' protocol defined in ITU-T Recommendation G.994.1.

This new standard has strong commonality with regional standards and has been designed to prevent interference to other DSL systems operating in the same cable.

A number of enhanced ADSL Recommendations on high-speed network access were also approved, covering:

- Method for DSL systems to negotiate mutually supported operating modes (G.994.1)
- Reference architecture for ADSL systems (G.995.1)

- Test methods for ADSL systems (G.996.1)
- Management of ADSL systems (G.997.1)

ITU also approved today the first of a set of standards for Home Phone-line Networking transceivers, ITU-T Recommendation G.989.1. This will allow home-networking devices (e.g. computer peripherals) to operate over existing telephone wiring.

Regarding the future evolution of the family of ITU-T DSL (Digital Subscriber Line) Recommendations, work is well underway on potential enhancements, including topics such as even higher bit rates and support of combined voice and data access, for both, symmetrical and asymmetrical operation.

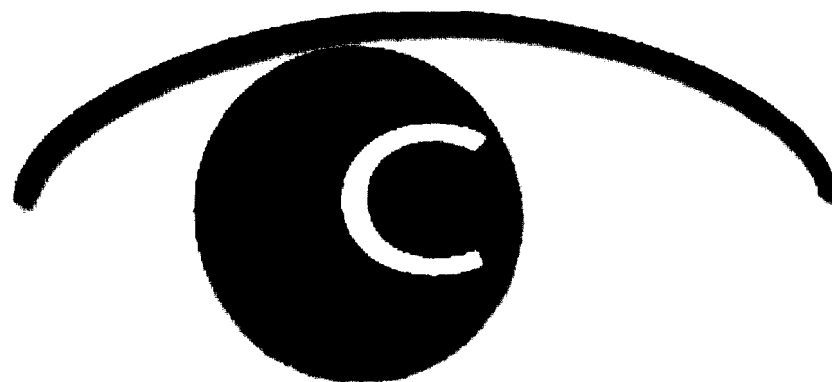
For further information please contact:

Mr Richard Stuart  
Rapporteur Q.4/15  
Tel: +1 410 884 4017  
Email: [dick\\_stuart@3com.com](mailto:dick_stuart@3com.com)

Mr Andrew Nunn  
Chairman WP 1/15  
Tel: +44 1728 83 04 62  
Email: [andrew.nunn@btinternet.com](mailto:andrew.nunn@btinternet.com)

Mr Peter Wery  
Chairman Study Group 15  
Tel: +1 613 763 7603  
Email: [wery@nortelnetworks.com](mailto:wery@nortelnetworks.com)

Mr Paolo Rosa, Counsellor  
ITU Telecommunication Standardization Bureau  
Tel: +41 22 730 5235  
Email: [paolo.rosa@itu.int](mailto:paolo.rosa@itu.int)



**C BEYOND COMMUNICATIONS**

Julia O. Strow

Vice President - Regulatory

CC Docket No. 96-98

February 21, 2001

# Summary of Cbeyond Position

- Cbeyond supports the recent proposal of Allegiance Telecom on this issue.
- A residential/business split is justified as there is no impairment to serving even the smallest of business customers
- Any MSA that meets the switching test proposed by Allegiance should be given the local switching carve out option
- If the collocation standard proposed by Allegiance is adopted, Cbeyond supports grandfathering those MSAs where incumbent LECs have elected the switching carve out under the existing rules.
- The voluntary EEL conditions should be maintained.